



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Mitsunori TOYODA

Group Art Unit: 2851

Application No.:

10/521,590

Examiner:

H. NGUYEN

Filed: January 18, 2005

Docket No.:

122397

For:

ILLUMINATION OPTICAL DEVICE, PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY MACHINE, AND

EXPOSURE METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the April 25, 2006 Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 13-25. The election is made with traverse.

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of all pending claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicant respectfully submits that this policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

The Examiner also is requested to consider the information submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed with this application on January 18, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Mario A. Costantino Registration No. 33,565

MAC/ccs

Date: May 19, 2006

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